

CZAR CONSIDERING ZEMSKI SOBOR.

As Yet It Has Not Been Summoned And Possibly May Not Be at All.

SOME INFLUENCES AGAINST IT.

They are Pressing His Majesty and Advancing Arguments That Cannot Lightly Be Put Aside.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 15.—In spite of Emperor Nicholas's personal inclination in favor of the zemski sobor as indicated to Count Leo Deonovich Tolstoi, the imperial decision to summon this parliament has not yet been taken. The emperor is carefully weighing arguments for and against the plan before committing himself to this course. This statement is made upon the authority of perhaps the most liberal of the emperor's ministers, who tonight informs the Associated Press that the question remains under consideration at Tsarskoe-Selo.

"I myself have frankly urged upon his majesty," the minister said, "the view that the time has come when the people should no longer be denied a voice in the government; and the same counsel has been given by many others, who, like me, believe that the moderate liberal element which is drifting away from the state is being lost to the support of the government. His majesty received our views sympathetically, and I believe is personally inclined to adopt the course we suggest. He now is carefully deliberating upon the subject."

"It is no secret, however, that powerful influences about his majesty are pressing the contrary view and advancing strong arguments which cannot lightly be thrust aside, even if the decision is finally favorable. Precipitation is impossible, although the people, who are laboring under the stress of excitement, seem to forget that for such a sweeping innovation time is necessary to formulate and elaborate the scheme for the electoral composition and functions of the body."

"Reasons of state exist which might make it inadvisable to summon such a body during the continuation of the war, since the government is entirely of the opinion that peace is impossible now. But if the zemski sobor is to be convened at the conclusion of the war a proclamation should be issued now."

"Yet, no matter what the emperor's decision may be, the manifesto on reforms on which the committee of ministers is working will be productive of great good. The misfortune is that all the discontented classes are for the moment skeptical. They are using every weapon to embarrass the government while it is engrossed with the war."

"The situation is deplorable, but not critical. There may be trouble and disorders, even on a comparatively large scale, though there will be no crisis unless the discontent extends to the rural districts. In my opinion that is possible only in the event of some great catastrophe, such as a general failure of the crops and an epidemic of cholera. Then, with famine to frighten the country, coupled with political agitation in the cities, no one can predict what may happen."

"It is understood that one of the arguments used by the court against the revival of the zemski sobor is the fact that the body in the old days wielded immense power, but that the articles for the elevation of the Romanoff dynasty to the throne, and therefore it might even threaten, if again called, to elect a new ruler."

Generally speaking, the position of the opposition to the zemski sobor is well voiced editorially in today's Moscow Gazette, the leading exponent of the absolute autocracy in Russia, in which it is prophesied that any system of national assembly will lead to a struggle between it and the emperor, which inevitably will end in the overthrow of the autocracy. The article draws a parallel between the present political situation and the nihilist terrorism which almost wrought a constitution from Alexander II, and after his assassination confronted Alexander III, with a choice of alternatives.

The article continues: "Then, as now, the public press loudly proclaimed that without a parliament or zemski sobor Russia must fall. Even government circles were so intimidated by an insignificant group of terrorists that it came to believe that Russia could be saved only by the zemski sobor. The sensible power of the autocratic sovereign. But Alexander understood that the first consideration for the welfare of Russia was the restoration of order. The government and not the people."

Suffering Will Not Help Your Disease, but Will Weaken Your Nerves.

Folks who think it is better to bear pain than soothe it—are wrong. Old-fashioned doctors used to say it was better, because they had nothing with which to ease pain but dangerous, heart-paralyzing drugs.

But now, that a safe remedy has been found, Dr. Miles' Anti-Pain Pills, it is wrong to suffer, for nothing can be gained but weakened nerves.

A safe rule to remember is: When in pain, take Anti-Pain Pills. This will soothe your quivering nerves. Dr. Miles' Anti-Pain Pills relieve pain by restoring the natural secretions, in which they differ from opium and similar narcotic drugs, which relieve pain by checking the action of the glands.

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the emperor, and not the zemski sobor, then Russia would be a revolution.

"What was true then is true now; the emperor must again save Russia. Suppose the government were turned over to such men as composed the zemski congress, who met without the consent of the ruler, adopted resolutions and otherwise instigated the people to open revolt; if the real power were lodged in their hands the result would be prompt defiance of the ruler and an open quarrel, resulting either in a terrible civil war or the dethronement of the autocracy by revolution. Those who imagine that such dangers can be avoided by restricting representation to privileged classes need only remember France and 1789, when the third estate engaged the two other estates, excluding the king. So in Russia, zemski sobor of the privileged zemstvo class would only be a stepping stone to universal representation, which would be bound to destroy the ruler of the autocracy and the Russian state."

GEN. LEW. WALLACE, AUTHOR OF "BEN HUR," IS DEAD.

Crawfordsville, Ind., Feb. 15.—Gen. Lew Wallace, author of "Ben Hur," one time minister to Turkey and a veteran of the Mexican and civil wars, died at his home in this city tonight, aged 78 years. The health of Gen. Wallace has been failing for several years, and for months, despite the efforts of the family to keep the public in ignorance of his true condition, it has become generally known that his vigorous constitution could not much longer withstand the ravages of a wasting disease. For more than a year he has been unable to properly assimilate food. At no time has he ever confessed his belief that he was near, and his rugged constitution and remarkable vitality have been responsible for prolonging his life several years beyond the expected term.

The death-bed scene was one of calmness. Besides his physician only his wife, his son, Henry Wallace of Indianapolis, and Mrs. Wallace were present. Two grandchildren were in the house, but were not admitted in the room. When told by his physician that he was dying Gen. Wallace was perfectly calm, and his last words were expressions of cheer to his grief-stricken family. Bidding them farewell, he said:

"I am ready to meet my Maker," and lapsed into unconsciousness, from which he did not revive. No definite funeral arrangements have been made.

Dr. W. R. Ristine, who had been Gen. Wallace's physician for many years, said tonight that death was exhaustion, resulting from starvation. For weeks Gen. Wallace had been unable to take and assimilate strengthening food of any kind. He refused to eat, and was unable to perform his functions, and it was only his iron constitution and remarkable vitality that kept him alive for more than three months. All nourishment for weeks had been given by hypodermic injection.

The general's health began to fail two years ago. He had been an inveterate smoker, and this was ascribed as the cause for his illness primarily. He gave up the habit, however, and lent every aid to the skilled specialists that were called. He failed slowly but surely, and three months ago his condition became alarming. His family left his home, and the last time he was on the streets was November 4, when he witnessed the football game between Wabash and Indiana universities.

He continued to be and since that time he sat up only a few hours each day. A week ago it became known he was sinking rapidly.

A BUNGLED HANGING.

Rope Broke and Prisoner Fell to Ground Unconscious.

Bridgeton, N. J., Feb. 15.—Frank Ralsinger, who was hanged here today for the murder of his wife, the rope broke as the body rebounded and the back of Ralsinger's head struck a cross-beam of the scaffold and broke Ralsinger's neck. The physician present said death was instantaneous. It was therefore not necessary to raise the body again to the scaffold.

A shudder ran through those who were assembled to witness the hanging as the rope parted and Ralsinger's body fell to the ground. Nearly everyone present turned their heads from the gruesome sight. Sheriff Dement said after the hanging that he was unable to account for the snapping of the cord, as it had been tested with a weight more than 100 pounds heavier than Ralsinger's body.

"THAT'S HIM; THAT'S HIM!" Mrs. Elsie Brucker of Chicago Identifies Hoch.

Chicago, Feb. 15.—Mrs. Elsie Brucker of Chicago today created a scene at the inquest of Mrs. Marie Walker-Hoch by exclaiming, "That's him; that's him," and pointing her finger at Hoch. She identified Hoch as a man who had swindled her out of \$150 two years ago on pretense of selling her a farm in Michigan. Hoch, the man who was hanged today, but in contrast to his nervousness at the opening of the inquest last week Hoch today presented a neat appearance, and wore a self-reliance.

When the hearing was resumed, after the interruption of the coroner Hoffmann announced that the expert medical testimony would not be heard until next Monday, when all the evidence regarding analysis of the woman's stomach in connection with the theory of poisoning will be submitted.

ASHIPWRECKED CREW.

Picked Up at Sea and Brought To New York.

New York, Feb. 15.—One shipwrecked crew and a number from another vessel, which had been abandoned at sea were brought here today on the steamer Sarnia, which arrived from Kingston, way of Fortunate Island. Six of the sailors were seamen from the Italian bark Eliza Vetroville, which was wrecked on Point Morant, Jamaica, and became a total loss. The other was a member of the crew of the American schooner Ida C. Southard, which was abandoned at sea in a dismasted and water-logged condition. The crew of the Southard was rescued by the German steamer Siberia, and landed at Fortunate Island.

STRIKES IN POLAND.

Latest Reports Show They Are Exhausting Themselves.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 15.—The latest reports from Poland indicate that the strike situation at Warsaw and Lodz is exhausting itself. At several places in southern Russia, however, individual strikes are reported, notably at the locomotive works of Kharkoff, but the men's demands were immediately met.

The question of the coal supply for the iron industry of the south is growing daily more critical. The possibility that the strikers of privately owned railroads would increase the increase accorded to the men employed on the gov-

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ernment roads is indicated by the action of the office force of the Moscow-Kieff road, who have presented an ultimatum to that effect. But altogether the outlook continues to improve.

KANSAS OIL PRODUCERS APPEAL TO PRESIDENT

Topeka, Kan., Feb. 15.—The Kansas Oil Producers' association today sent the following telegram to President Roosevelt:

"Topeka, Kan., Feb. 15, 1905.—To Theodore Roosevelt, Washington, D. C.—The undersigned, representing the oil producers of the state of Kansas, and speaking for the intelligent and industrious people of the state, and voicing the spirit of American fair play everywhere, appeal to you, and through your secretary of the interior, and by you to the Congress of the United States for help in the undertaking of the legislative proposal to protect the oil industry of the state from the oppression of the Standard Oil trust."

"Because the legislature presumes to exercise a natural function of government by legislating for the welfare and protection of industries within the borders of the state against the oppression of all monopolies, and because the legislature proposes to try the experiment of a public oil refinery as a means of preserving and making profitable the oil industry, the general manager of the Standard Oil company has issued a boycott upon Kansas oil, and one of his subordinates has insulted our people by expressing in the public prints a groundless fear that they will destroy the company's property."

"We further represent to you that a menace to the crude oil market is a continued ownership by the Standard Oil company of what is known as the 'Poster lease' of the Osage Indian reservation. This reservation includes one and one-half million acres of land, which contains a reservoir of petroleum so rich that if the Standard Oil company should own and develop it, that company will have a supply of oil that will make it independent of private production, and the field will fall over the United States. The lease is nominally held by 'straw men,' but it really is in the grip of the Standard Oil company and the oil producers appeal to the president, the secretary of the interior and the Congress to refuse the application now pending for its extension. It is too much for the government to give the Standard Oil company, or its agents, an organization which is already so powerful that it presumes to be greater than the people of the government."

"The Kansas oil field has been developed on the promise of fair play and good prices by the Standard Oil company, but now that the supply is sufficient for the needs of the country, as it has done in other fields, has reduced the price below a profit, and the men who have invested their money will lose it, and the field will languish, unless government, state and nation refuse to confer upon the company additional right and franchises and turns in the other direction and legislates for the people."

"Respectfully submitted, Kansas Oil Producers' association. By H. D. West, president; W. E. Baker, secretary."

ROCKEFELLER INFORMED.

New York, Feb. 15.—John D. Rockefeller, head of the Standard Oil company, who is now in Lakewood, N. J., has been informed of the appeal today by the house of representatives requesting the secretary of commerce and labor to investigate the crude oil and petroleum situation, with special reference to recent developments in the Kansas field. Mr. Rockefeller received the news with considerable interest, but declined to make any comment.

Officials of the company in this city also were disinclined to discuss the matter. H. H. Rogers said: "In view of the limited information which has reached me, and the fact that the Standard Oil company is already the subject of inquiry, I can say nothing regarding the matter. I am acquainted with the nature of the investigation, which has been set on foot. In any event, I cannot see the propriety of a statement at this time."

Pitcher Jack Taylor Exonerated.

New York, Feb. 15.—Pitcher Jack Taylor of the St. Louis National League baseball club today was exonerated by the board of directors of the association of a charge of "throwing" the game between St. Louis and Pittsburg in the latter city July 30 last. On the second day of the trial he was tried, however, that of violating the constitution and his contract with the St. Louis club, he was found guilty and was fined \$200. He was ordered not to play baseball until the fine had been paid.

Harlan Named for Mayor

Chicago, Feb. 15.—John Maynard Harlan was unanimously nominated for mayor of Chicago by the Republican city convention today.

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The pure, good tea, sold in packages only. M. J. Brandenstein & Co. Importers, San Francisco.

ACTION ON FISCAL QUESTION WANTED.

Mr. Asquith Moves an Amendment To Address in Reply to Speech From the Throne.

PREMIER BALFOUR WAS DUMB.

Mr. Chamberlain Declared to be Inoculated With the "Malaria of Ambiguity."

London, Feb. 15.—In the house of commons the debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne was resumed by Mr. Asquith (Liberal and former home secretary), who moved the following amendment:

"We humbly represent to your majesty that the various aspects of the fiscal question have been fully discussed in the country for nearly two years, and that the time has come for submitting the question to the people without further delay."

Mr. Asquith supported this demand for an immediate dissolution of parliament, with some trenchant remarks on the wide fiscal gulf separating the Unionist factions. Turning to Premier Balfour, Mr. Asquith asked him to give a monosyllabic answer whether there was any practical difference between his and Joseph Chamberlain's fiscal policy, but the premier remained silent. The speaker then declared that Mr. Chamberlain was also becoming inoculated with the "malaria of ambiguity," and added that this intolerable confusion, menacing and serious to industry and the empire, could only be cleared up by a prompt and direct appeal to the people.

Austen Chamberlain, the chancellor of the exchequer, replying, taunted the Liberals with asking the country for a mandate to stimulate bounty-fed competition with British manufactures and to maintain a system of free imports without a free exchange. The opposition's policy, he added, was to shut its eyes to all that was passing in the rest of the world and clinging to the ancient traditions of 60 years ago. The government desired a free hand to negotiate fiscal matters with foreign countries and the colonies, and an unfettered conference of the latter would be built. The present suspense, he said, was bad both politically and materially. A moral obligation rested on the government to appeal to the country.

The discussion was robbed of interest by the unexpected calling of a second cabinet meeting, which sat for two hours during the evening. A second cabinet meeting in one day is unusual, and created great curiosity, and an exit of members to the lobbies. It is believed that the meeting had no connection with parliamentary matters. There is a rumor that it was owing to the receipt of important dispatches from the east connected with the possibilities of peace, but nothing reliable is known on the subject.

RUSSIAN STUDENTS.

Adopt Strike Methods to Show Their Disapproval of Political Conditions.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 15, 4:20 a. m.—Students throughout Russia are resorting to strike methods to indicate their dissatisfaction with existing political conditions and press the demands for reform. The students at the University of Moscow, the largest institution of the kind in Russia, have voted not to resume their studies during the present school year.

The spirit possesses the students of the other large universities, and even extends to the smaller ones.

Am. Butter Refining Co.

Trenton, N. J., Feb. 15.—The American Butter Refining company, which has authorized capital of \$17,000,000, was incorporated here today, to produce and deal in milk, butter and food products and to acquire the business and plants of other corporations, firms and individuals. The capital stock is divided into \$20,000,000 preferred with 6 per cent non-cumulative dividend and \$15,000,000 common stock. The incorporators are Walter E. Bone, Beverly R. Roberts, E. Theo and I. Thygeson, all of Jersey City.

Receiver for Smelter Co.

Newark, N. J., Feb. 15.—Application for the appointment of a receiver for the Standard Lead & Smelting company was made in Vice Chancellor Emory today by Alois Brombach, one of the stockholders of the company. He alleges that the company is insolvent. It is capitalized at \$1,000,000.

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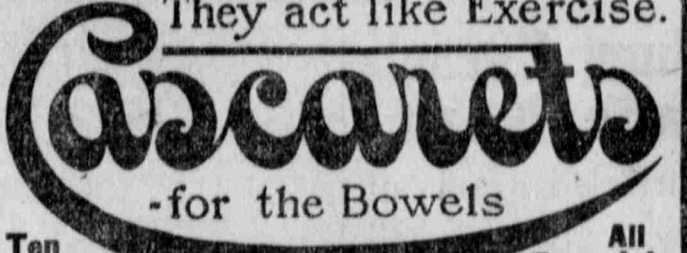
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